

(d) and (e). According to the present long-term projections, the coal production in the country is expected to be about 306 million tonnes by the end of 8th Five Year Plan, (i. e. 1992-1997). The production would be achieved from the production of existing mines, re-organisation of mines/projects, ongoing projects, Tentatively, in the coal sector, an outlay of Rs. 11860 Crores has been estimated.

The following steps have been taken to improve the quality of coal by Coal companies:—

- (i) provision of adequate coal handling plants;
- (ii) segregation of stones at the time of loading;
- (iii) setting up of beneficiation plants.

Demand of Coking Coal

4511. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not producing enough coking coal to meet the demands of the steel industry;

(b) the outgo of foreign exchange on account of import of coking coals during 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively; and

(c) whether any Research and Development work has been done to improve the quality of indigenous coking coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA):

(a) Major coking coal deposits are in Jharia coalfield where there are serious geo-mining, technological and infrastructural problems like old partially worked underground mines, presence of fires and water logged workings in adjoining areas, villages, townships and other built-up structures and nallas and rivulets and other built-up structures

and nallas and rivulets requiring shifting or protection that are coming in the way of speedy development of coking coal mines in this coalfield. Moreover inherent quality of Indian coking coal reserves is inferior as such some import of low ash coking coal is required for blending purpose.

(b) The information is given below:—

Year	Approximate Value (On the basis of FOB Price) (US Million \$)
1988-89	227
1989-90	243
1990-91	310
1991-92	294
(April-February)	

(c) An expert committee (Altekar Committee) was set up in 1985 to study all the existing washeries with a view to improve the quality of washed metallurgical coking coal. As per the recommendations of this committee the existing washeries in BCCL and CCL are being modified to cater to the changed quality parameters of raw coal feed to ensure that clean coal should be of $17 \pm 0.5\%$ ash content.

Employment Generation

4512. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a plan to generate additional employment of 24.5 lakh during the Eighth Plan through a fixed capital investment;

(b) if so, the details of the target fixed in this regard for each state; and

(c) whether requisite raw materials and credit are also being arranged to generate such employment, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). Government is already implementing a scheme known as "Self Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth" (SEEUY). Under the SEEUY scheme a target of 12.5 lakh beneficiaries has been set during the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97).

Additional Employment of 24.5 lakh persons during Eighth Five Year Plan has been estimated on the basis of annual average growth in production in the small scale sector.

(c) In the Policy Measures for Promoting and Strengthening Small, Tiny and Village Enterprises laid in the Parliament on 6th August, 1991 emphasis has been laid to ensure both adequate flow of credit on a normative basis and quality of its delivery for viable operations of the small scale sector. Besides, tiny/small scale units would be given priority in allocation of adequate and equitable raw materials, both indigenous and imported.

Decline in Growth of Small Scale Industry

4513. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a decline in the growth of small scale industries during 1991-92;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to support the Small Scale Sector; and

(d) the total number of Small Scale Industries registered in the Country at present the total annual turnover by them and the percentage of exports by them annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main reasons for decline in the growth of small scale industries are credit squeeze; foreign exchange constraints; demand recession; high interest rate on working capital provided by banks; and shortage of raw materials; particularly of imported raw materials.

(c) Steps taken by the Government to support the small scale sector are: provision of need-based credit to SSI units; setting up of a Committee by RBI to look into the credit needs and sickness in the small scale sector; relaxation in import restrictions; reduction in interest rate by 1% on bank credit from 20% to 19%; SLR has been reduced by 8.5% from 38.5% to 30%.

(d) The total number of small scale units coming under the purview of Small Industries Development Organisation registered on permanent basis with the various State/UT Directorate of Industries was 13,78,480 at the end of 1990.

The total estimated production in the small scale sector (of both registered and unregistered units) at current prices was Rs. 155340 crores during 1990-91.

The percentage of direct exports by the small scale sector in the total exports of the country was about 28 percent in 1989-90, the latest year for which firm figures are available.

Prices of Coal

4514. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have increased the prices of coal to reduce the losses suffered by the Coal India Limited;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any study to find out the reasons for